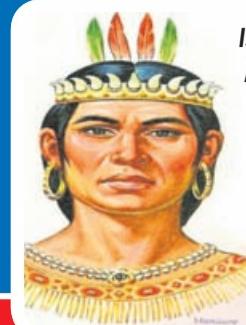


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The Bushiribana Gold Mill Ruins and its history



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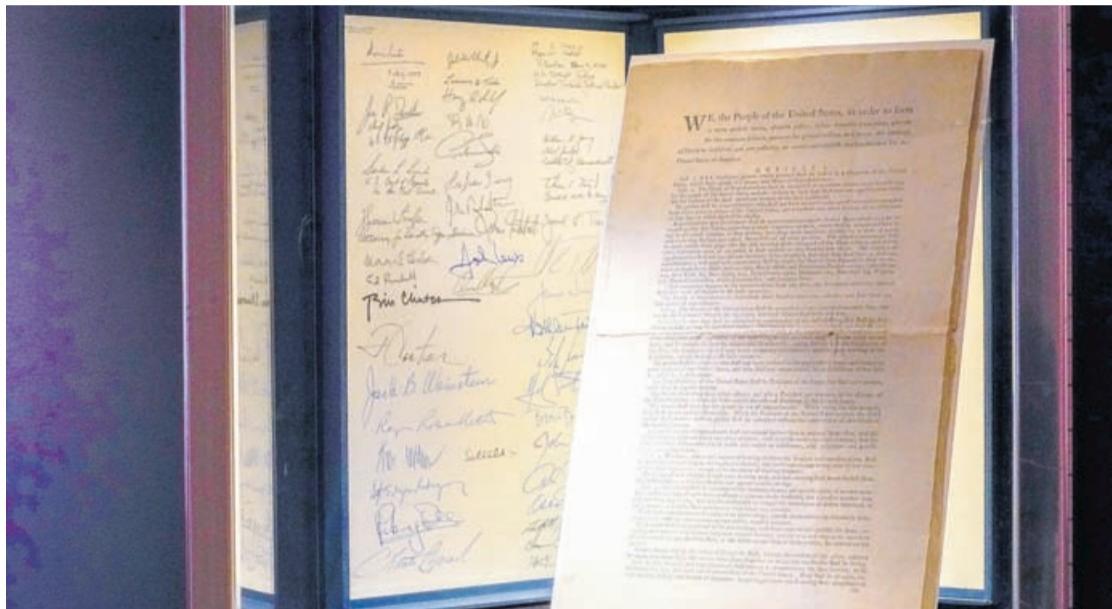


Ken Griffin will loan his copies of the Constitution and Bill of Rights so the public can see them

By GLENN GAMBOA
AP Business Writer

Citadel CEO Ken Griffin believes American prosperity is a testament to the power of the Constitution. And as the country gets ready to celebrate its 250th anniversary next year, the hedge fund billionaire wants to expand public access to the 1787 document.

Griffin announced Tuesday that he will lend his first-edition copy of the Constitution to the National Constitution Center in Philadelphia for a public exhibit dedicated to the founding document of the U.S. government. He will also loan the center his copy of the Bill of Rights, which he has not previously acknowledged owning publicly, and has made a \$15 million donation for the exhibit – the largest in the center's history. "The authors of the Constitution had incredible foresight in designing a system of government that has withstood the test of time and now, more than



A first printing of the United States Constitution is displayed at Sotheby's auction house during a press preview on Nov. 5, 2021, in New York.

Associated Press

ever, protects the American Dream," Griffin said in a statement.

Jeffrey Rosen, CEO of the National Constitution Center, called Griffin's loan of the documents and the donation a "transformative opportunity."

"Ken Griffin's generosity is going to allow us to create a new Founding Principles

gallery that will tell the story of the American idea from the revolution through the Constitutional Convention through ratification and all the way up to the adoption of the Bill of Rights," said Rosen, adding that the new exhibit will also mark the center's largest renovation since it opened in 2003. The support comes as

the Constitution is increasingly cited, as all three branches of government navigate questions about who should be controlling what. "The Constitution Center's mission has never been more relevant," said Rosen, adding that the nonpartisan nonprofit center tries to reduce polarization by offering a plat-

form for both conservative and liberal Constitutional scholars. "It's an honor to convene people of different perspectives for these Constitutional debates and conversations. And we are very much looking forward to continuing these conversations."

A longtime Republican megadonor, Griffin has recently drawn attention for his criticisms of President Donald Trump.

"The United States was more than just a nation. It's a brand," Griffin said at the Semafor World Economy Summit last month. "It was like an aspiration for most the world. And we're eroding that brand right now." But Griffin's representatives said the donation and loan to the NCC have been planned for years. "The National Constitution Center is a powerful platform for celebrating our country's founding principles," said Julia Quinn, Citadel director of philanthropy. □

Federal appeals court continues to block Florida's drag-show ban as likely unconstitutional



Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis speaks during a public event where he announced he would sign a bill banning the use of fluoride in public water systems, Tuesday, May 6, 2025, in Miami.

Associated Press

ATLANTA (AP) — An injunction barring the enforcement of Florida's drag-show ban will remain in effect after a federal appeals court ruled Tuesday that the law is likely unconstitutional.

A three-judge panel for the 11th Circuit Court of Appeals voted 2-1 to back a lower court decision that described Florida's law, purportedly aimed at protecting children from drag shows, as overly broad and vaguely written. The case now returns to the Middle District of Florida, where a federal bench trial can be scheduled.

Attorney Melissa Stewart, who is representing Hamburger Mary's, a drag-themed casual-dining restaurant, said they're thrilled the First Amendment rights

of Floridians will remain protected as the case continues.

"The Court's opinion recognizes this law for what it is: an egregiously unconstitutional attempt to censor the speech and expression of citizens," Stewart said.

Brian Wright, a spokesman for the Florida governor's office, called the ruling an overreach by a federal court.

"No one has a constitutional right to perform sexual routines in front of little kids," Wright said. "We will do everything possible to have this lawless decision overturned." The Hamburger Mary's in Orlando, which filed the lawsuit in 2023, regularly hosted drag shows, including family-friendly performances on Sundays that children were invited to attend. □

Trump trade war faces legal challenge as businesses, states argue his tariffs exceeded his power

By PAUL WISEMAN and LINDSAY WHITEHURST
Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) —

President Donald Trump is waging a trade war without getting approval from Congress: He declared a national emergency to slap import taxes tariffs on almost every country on earth. The president is now facing at least seven lawsuits that argue he's gone too far and asserted power he does not have.

A three-judge panel of the U.S. Court of International Trade, which deals specifically with civil lawsuits involving international trade law, held the first hearing on the challenges Tuesday morning in New York. Five small businesses are asking the court to block the sweeping import taxes that Trump announced April 2 "Liberation Day," he called it.

Declaring that the United States' huge and long-running trade deficits add up to a national emergency, Trump invoked the 1977 International Emergency Economic Powers Act (IEPPA) and rolled out 10% tariffs on many countries. He imposed higher—up to 50% "reciprocal" tariffs on countries that sold more goods to the United States than the U.S. sold them. (Trump later suspended those higher tariffs for 90 days.)

Trump's tariffs rattled global markets and raised fears that they would disrupt commerce and slow U.S. and global economic growth.

Jeffrey Schwab, senior counsel and director of litigation at the nonprofit Liberty Justice Center, said the president is exceeding the act's authority. "That statute doesn't actually say anything about giving the president the power to tariff," said Schwab, who is representing the small businesses. "It doesn't say the word tariff."

In their complaint, the businesses also call Trump's emergency "a figment of his own imagination: trade deficits, which have per-



A container ship is moored at the port of the port of New York & New Jersey in Elizabeth, N.J., Monday May 12, 2025.

Associated Press

sisted for decades without causing economic harm, are not an emergency." The U.S. has, in fact, run a trade deficit—the gap between exports and imports with the rest of the world for 49 straight years, through good times and bad. But the Trump administration argues that courts approved President Richard Nixon's emergency use of tariffs in a 1971 economic crisis. The Nixon administration successfully cited its authority under the 1917 Trading With Enemy Act, which preceded and supplied some of the legal language used in IEPPA.

The legal battle against Trump's tariffs has created unusual bedfellows, uniting states led by Democratic governors with libertarian groups—including the Liberty Justice Center—that often seek to overturn government regulation of businesses. A dozen states have filed suit against Trump's tariffs in the New York trade court. A hearing in that case is scheduled for May 21.

Kathleen Claussen, a professor and trade-law expert at Georgetown Law, said Tuesday's hearing and another scheduled for the states' lawsuit in the coming weeks will likely set the tone for legal battles over tariffs to come. If the court agrees to block the tariffs under the emergency economic-powers act, the

Trump administration will certainly appeal. "It strikes

me probably this probably is something that has to be decided by the Supreme Court," she said.

And if the cases do go to the Supreme Court, legal experts say, it's possible the justices will use conservative legal doctrines they cited to rein in government powers claimed by Democratic President Joe Biden administration to strike down or limit tariffs imposed by Trump, a Republican.

The U.S. Constitution gives the power to impose taxes—including tariffs—to Congress. But over the years lawmakers ceded power over trade policy to the White House, clearing the way for Trump's expansive use of tariffs. □



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Maryland Gov. Wes Moore signs bill to tap unused ACA insurance funds for abortion grant program

By BRIAN WITTE

Associated Press

ANNAPOLIS, Md. (AP) —

Maryland will become the first state to use money collected from a surcharge on insurance plans sold under the Affordable Care Act to fund a program to pay for abortions, regardless of a patient's insurance coverage, under a measure signed into law Tuesday by Democratic Gov. Wes Moore.

The law will make about \$25 million available when it takes effect July 1, because a \$1 surcharge has been unused and growing over the last 15 years since the ACA took effect in 2010. It's estimated to make about \$3 million available annually in future years.

"The lieutenant governor and I were very clear from Day 1 that Maryland will always be a safe haven for abortion access," Moore said, highlighting the measure among some 170 bills signed at a ceremony.

The program will be paid for through the transfer of certain insurance premium funds collected by carriers that can only be used for abortion coverage in ac-



A flag stand atop the Maryland State House on May 11, 2023, in Annapolis, Md.

Associated Press

cordance with the ACA. Supporters say other states have access to a similar surplus of funds through their state exchange insurance systems.

"If programs like ours are duplicated across the country, we could help millions of Americans access essential abortion care without relying on taxpayer dollars," said Del. Lesley Lopez, a Democrat from

Maryland's Montgomery County, in the suburbs of the nation's capital.

Officials in New York and Illinois already have reached out to Maryland officials to learn more about the program, said Lopez, who sponsored the bill.

A dozen states require abortion coverage in ACA marketplace plans, according to KFF, a nonprofit that researches health

care issues. They are California, Colorado, Illinois, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Minnesota, New Jersey, New York, Oregon, Vermont and Washington. "This money exists in every state that has abortion as a required type of care under their state's benefit exchanges," Lopez said. "It's basically all the blue states that mandated abortion be covered when the Af-

fordable Care Act was starting to be implemented."

The law creates a grant program fund in the state's health department to improve access to abortion clinical services. It requires the department to award grants to nonprofit organizations to support equitable access.

Lynn McCann-Yeh, co-executive director of the Baltimore Abortion Fund, which helps pay costs associated with abortion for people who live in Maryland or who travel there, said it's hard to keep up with an annual budget of about \$2 million.

"We would need many, many more times over that to fully be able to meet the full logistic and medical support for each caller," she said.

She said the \$3 million that would be made available annually under the new law could make a major difference. The fund could apply to administer a share of that money.

"The \$3 million is a great start, but it will take more than that and it will take sustained funding," she said. □

U.S. charges high-ranking Mexican drug cartel suspects with narco-terrorism

By JULIE WATSON

Associated Press

SAN DIEGO (AP) — U.S. officials unveiled an indictment Tuesday against two

alleged Mexican drug cartel leaders on narco-terrorism charges.

The indictment comes after the Trump administra-

tion in February designated the Sinaloa Cartel and seven other Latin American crime organizations as "foreign terrorist organizations," upping its pressure on cartels operating in the U.S. and on anyone aiding them. President Donald Trump called for the designation in an executive order on Jan. 20, the day he took office in his second term.

The "foreign terrorist organization" label is unusual because it deploys a terrorist designation normally reserved for groups like al-Qaida or the Islamic State group that use violence for political ends not for money-focused crime rings such as the Latin

American cartels.

"If you act like a terrorist, you shouldn't be surprised if you are charged as one," said Adam Gordon, U.S. attorney for the Southern District of California.

Those charged were described as key leaders of the Beltrán Leyva Organization, according to the indictment. The organization is one of a number of warring criminal groups that once formed part of the Sinaloa Cartel and have since split off and warred for territory and power, fueling bloodshed in large swathes of Mexico. Pedro Inzunza Noriega and his son, Pedro Inzunza Coronel, were also charged with providing material

support of terrorism in connection with the trafficking of massive amounts of fentanyl, cocaine, methamphetamine and heroin into the United States, according to court documents. Five other high-ranking members were charged with drug trafficking and money laundering.

All remain fugitives, officials said.

The father and son have overseen "one of the largest and most sophisticated fentanyl production networks in the world," Gordon said.

The organization is accused of trafficking tens of thousands of kilograms (pounds) of fentanyl into the United States. □



A truck burns on a street in Culiacan, Sinaloa state, Thursday, Jan. 5, 2023.

Associated Press

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U.S. envoy says the Trump administration insists NATO allies raise defense investment to 5%

By LORNE COOK
Associated Press

BRUSSELS (AP) — The Trump administration wants to hear this week how NATO's European member countries and Canada plan to boost defense investment to 5% of gross domestic product, new U.S. envoy Matthew Whitaker said Tuesday.

In 2023, as Russia's full-scale war on Ukraine entered its second year, NATO leaders agreed to spend at least 2% of GDP on national defense budgets. So far, 22 of the 32 member countries have done so.

The leaders will set a new goal at a summit in The Hague on June 25. President Donald Trump insists that U.S. allies should commit to spending at least 5%, but that would require investment at an unprecedented scale.

Trump has cast doubt over whether the U.S. would defend allies that spend too little.

Briefing reporters ahead of a meeting of NATO foreign



Germany's Chancellor Friedrich Merz, left, shakes hands with NATO Secretary General Mark Rutte during a media conference at NATO headquarters in Brussels, Friday, May 9, 2025.

Associated Press

ministers in Antalya, Turkey on Wednesday, U.S. Ambassador Matthew Whitaker insisted that "5% is our number. We're asking our allies to invest in their defense like they mean it."

"Make no mistake, this ministerial is going to be differ-

ent," Whitaker said, adding that "5% is not just a number, it is a necessity for our security. The alliance is facing significant threats." He did not outline those threats.

NATO leaders insisted at a summit last year that "Russia

the leaders "to aim for 3.5% hard military spending by 2032," and to "1.5% related spending such as infrastructure, cybersecurity and things like that. Also achievable by 2032."

While the two figures do add up to 5%, factoring in infrastructure and cybersecurity would change the basis on which NATO traditionally calculates defense spending. The seven-year time frame is also short by the alliance's usual standards.

Asked about his demand, NATO Secretary-General Mark Rutte did not deny it, but he said: "I'm not going to confirm the figures." He said that "there are many rumors floating around" as envoys discuss the new spending goal.

Whitaker appeared to confirm the "defense investment" plan, saying that it "also includes things like mobility, necessary infrastructure, cyber security. It is definitely more than just missiles, tanks and howitzers." □

Canadian Prime Minister Carney shakes up Cabinet and names a new foreign minister

By ROB GILLIES
Associated Press

TORONTO (AP) — Canadian Prime Minister Mark Carney announced a major Cabinet shakeup, including a new foreign minister, on Tuesday as he shapes a newly re-elected Liberal government.

Carney, who replaced Justin Trudeau earlier this year and won election last month, named Anita Anand foreign minister, replacing Mélanie Joly, who becomes the minister of industry. Anand previously served in roles including defense minister.

François-Philippe Champagne retains his job as finance minister, while Dominic LeBlanc remains minister of U.S. trade at a time of a trade war between Canada and the United States.

Carney won the job of prime minister by promising to confront the aggression toward Canada shown by U.S. President Donald Trump, while preserving the calm demeanor of an economist who has led the central banks of both Canada and the United Kingdom. "Canadians elected this new government with a strong mandate to define a new economic and security relationship with the United States and to build a stronger economy for all Canadians," Carney said. □



Canadian Prime Minister Mark Carney speaks to the media following a swearing-in ceremony at Rideau Hall in Ottawa, Ontario, Tuesday, May 13, 2025.

Associated Press

China seeks a united front with Latin America in countering Trump's trade war

By SIMINA MISTREANU

Associated Press

TAIPEI, Taiwan (AP) — China is moving to strengthen its alliances with other countries as a counterweight to President Donald Trump's trade war, presenting a united front with Latin American leaders a day after China and the U.S. agreed to a 90-day truce in their tariffs stalemate.

China's leaders have positioned the world's second-largest economy as a reliable trade and development partner, in contrast to the uncertainty and instability from Trump's tariff hikes and other policies.

On Monday, Beijing and Washington announced their breakthrough on tariffs after weekend talks in Geneva, Switzerland, where they agreed to cut sky-high import duties on both sides for 90 days to allow for negotiations.

Still, Beijing's ire over the trade war remains apparent. Speaking to officials from China and Latin America on Tuesday, Chinese leader Xi Jinping reiterated Beijing's stance that nobody wins a trade war and that "bullying or hegemonism only leads to self-isolation."

Having moved to defuse



Chinese President Xi Jinping, front center, Brazil President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva, third left in front, Chile President Gabriel Boric, second left in front, Colombia President Gustavo Petro, third left in front, and other CELAC representatives attend a group photo session before the opening ceremony for the China-CELAC Forum ministerial meeting in Beijing Tuesday, May 13, 2025.

Associated Press

antagonisms with the U.S., Xi said China stands ready to "join hands" with Latin countries "in the face of seething undercurrents of pure political and bloc confrontation and the surging tide of unilateralism and protectionism."

"There are no winners in tariff wars or trade wars," Xi said, reiterating a phrase China has used repeatedly when referring to Trump's

policies. When Trump began raising tariffs on Chinese products during his first term in office, China retaliated by diversifying its purchases of key farm products, such as soybeans and beef, away from U.S. suppliers. Brazil and other Latin American countries have benefited from that strategy.

Also Tuesday, the head of the World Trade Organiza-

tion appealed to Japan to fight disruptions to world commerce from Trump's fast-changing tariffs and other policies.

"Trade is facing very challenging times right now and it is quite difficult," Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala, director-general of the Geneva-based WTO, told Japanese Prime Minister Shigeru Ishiba while on a visit to Tokyo. Japan, as "a champion of

the multilateral trading system" must help maintain, strengthen and reform the WTO, the Japanese Foreign Ministry cited her as saying. Japan is among many countries yet to reach a deal with the Trump administration on hikes to U.S. tariffs, including those on autos, steel and aluminum. The WTO played a pivotal role in past decades as the U.S. and other major economies crusaded for the more open markets that facilitated the growth of global supply chains, many of which are anchored in China.

By dismantling many protectionist barriers to trade, it has aided the ascent of Japan and China, and many other countries, as export manufacturing hubs.

Since taking office for a second time, Trump has prioritized higher tariffs to try to reduce U.S. imports and compel companies to locate factories in the United States, doubling down on a trade war that he launched during his first term.

The realities of Trump's global trade offensive overshadowed an initial burst of optimism over the China-U.S. deal among investors, as rallies in stocks and oil prices faded on Tuesday. □

Global aviation council finds Russia responsible for downing MH17 over Ukraine in 2014



A pro-Russian rebel touches the MH17 wreckage at the crash site of Malaysia Airlines Flight 17, near the village of Hrabove, eastern Ukraine, on July 22, 2014.

Associated Press

By ROD McGUIRK

Associated Press

MELBOURNE, Australia (AP) — The Council of the International Civil Aviation Organization on Tuesday found Russia responsible for shooting down Malaysia Airlines Flight 17 over Ukraine with the loss of 298 lives more than a decade ago, in a ruling that raises the prospect of victims' families being paid compensation.

Russia has rejected the findings.

A Dutch-led international investigation concluded in 2016 that the Amsterdam-to-Kuala Lumpur airliner was shot down on July 17, 2014, from Ukrainian territory held by separatist rebels using a Buk missile system delivered from Russia. Moscow denies any involvement in the MH17 tragedy.

The Netherlands and Australian governments brought the case against Moscow before the Montreal-based global avia-

tion agency in 2022, and on Tuesday welcomed the verdict.

Council finds that Russia violated the Chicago Convention. The council found that Russia had violated the Convention on International Civil Aviation, known as the Chicago Convention, which requires that states "refrain from resorting to the use of weapons against civil aircraft in flight."

It's the first time that the council, which represents 193 member states, has decided a dispute between governments. Dutch Foreign Minister Caspar Veldkamp said that the council would consider the question of reparations within weeks.

"In that context, the Netherlands and Australia are requesting that the ICAO Council order the Russian Federation to enter into negotiations with the Netherlands and Australia, and that the Council facilitate this process," Veldkamp said in a statement. □



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Fred de Jong presents the Aruba Frank Sinatra Show live at The Cinemas

(Oranjestad)—Take advantage of your chance to lounge back and delight in the memorable melodies of one of the greatest entertain-

ers of all time, Frank Sinatra. Join fellow Sinatra fans for a charming evening of music and entertainment LIVE at The Cinemas!



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De Jong invites you to be a part of a classy, beautiful evening of jazzy swing classics each Thursday from 7:30 PM to 8:30 PM at The Cinemas in Paseo Herencia. Seating is limited.

Book your seat now at arubasinatra.com/book. Food and drink not included. □

Papiamento words and phrases you may want to know!

(Oranjestad)—Aruba is a melting pot of different nationalities, cultures and languages. Primarily for this reason, the average Aruban can understand and speak Dutch, English and Spanish relatively well. However, as much as we pride ourselves in being able to communicate with almost everyone, we cherish our native tongue Papiamento above all else. Want to learn some common words in our language? Here are a few basic words and phrases that can get you a hat tip from an Aruban.

When you arrive at the airport in Aruba, one of the first words in Papiamento you may encounter is "Bon bini." Bon bini in Papiamento means welcome, and is probably the most famous Papiamento word for tourists.

Hi! Bye!

To be fair, there is no unique way to say "hello" in Papiamento. At

least, not officially. We often just use the English "hello" or "hey", or Dutch "hallo" to greet someone. We do however, always follow it up with "con bay?" or "con ta?" Con bay is a shortened version of "con ta bay?", which essentially means "how are you?"

The word "con" in Papiamento means "how?" and is pronounced with a rounder "o" sounds, like in the English word "cone". "Ta bay" refers to how you are doing.

When we say goodbye, we use the word "ayo" (not like the Ayo Rock Formation, but also...kinda?). We may also use "te oro", which means "see you later".

Greetings during the day

Most, if not all, languages have different ways to greet according to the time of day, and Papiamento is no different. Since Papiamento is heavily influenced from Portuguese

and Spanish, some of these phrases may look very familiar.

1. Bon dia is used in the morning, up to about noon. Bon dia essentially means good morning. The word "bon" means "good", and while "dia" does not directly mean "morning" in English, it is used often to refer to the morning time.

2. Bon tardi. In the afternoon to early evening hours, we use "bon tardi" to greet people, which means "good afternoon". "Tardi" actually comes from the word "atardi", which directly translates to "afternoon". However, the shortened "tardi" is used to keep the rhythm on the phrase. And the same could be said for our last greeting of the day.

3. Bon noch. You guessed it, "bon noch" means "good night". Just like "tardi", "noch" is actually the shortened version of the word "anochi".

Yes...no...maybe?

The affirmative and negative expression is very simple in Papiamento. Just like Spanish, our yeses are "si" and our no's are "no". Pretty easy right? If you want to gain some extra points from younger locals, you can also say "se", which is a more casual affirmative used mostly by the younger generation. However, do note: some older generations may find this improper and not respectful, so keep that in mind.

Thanks man...

Lastly, a word that we can also say more often is "danki", which means literally "thank you". "Danki" is derived from the Dutch word "bedankt". Though we don't really have a translation for "I appreciate it" in English, we do use "masha danki" to convey the message. "Masha" means "a lot" or "very", so "masha danki" means "thank you very much". □

The Bushiribana Gold Mill Ruins and its history



(Oranjestad)—The Bushiribana Gold Mill Ruins is one of the most visited places by tourists on the island, as it lies along the northern coast line near the mini pool and on the way to the Natural Bridge. Despite its seemingly plain appearance, this ruin represents one of the most important histories of the island: The Aruban Gold Rush.

Built in 1872 by English company Aruba Island Gold Mining Company Ltd, the gold mill at Bushiribana was constructed in the area where most gold was found by

locals. The story of gold on Aruba actually dates back to 1725, when a first exploration for gold on the island was commissioned by the Dutch West India Company. Under the leadership of Mr. Paulus Printz, a three-year search was conducted on Aruba, to no avail. Though they found some gold, it was enough to motivate a further search, and the assignment was discontinued by Printz himself.

It wasn't until 100 years later, in 1824, when a young boy found a lump of gold

while out herding his father's sheep. His father took it to a local merchant who then sold the lump for \$70. Unbeknownst to the boy and his father, they quite literally struck gold, and as word got out, a gold fever spread among the locals who started searching for more gold. About 25 pounds worth was found.

At the same time, the Aruban government took immediate actions, and informed Curaçao that gold was found. At first, everyone could look for gold, as long as they sold it to the government. However, after some time, the government decided to implement stricter rules and banned lo-



cal search parties.

Over the years, concession-holding had seen different companies from around the world, all of which used primitive methods to dig and carve out gold from the rocks. Aruba Island Gold Mining Company Ltd. was no different, but used a unique

method that involved grinding the rocks and letting the dust be blown away by the strong northeast wind, leaving clumps of gold behind. The next step was melting the gold and letting it attach to quicksilver in order to obtain pure gold. All these processes were done at the Bushiribana Gold Mill.



The gold mill itself had a short life-span: only 10 years in service, but its structure remained relatively solid till this day, and is now a historical remnant. □

Sources: Etnia Nativia & gold-mineranch.com.

All highly recognized artists in Aruba became acquainted with the Caribbean Town Aruba project and its purpose

In October 2021, during two information nights at Cosecha San Nicolas and Oranjestad, Caribbean Town Aruba expressed their desire to collaborate with local artists who are experts in various areas, including painters and muralists. All highly recognized artists in Aruba became acquainted with the Caribbean Town Aruba project and its purpose.

The purpose of Caribbean Town Aruba is to showcase a piece from the selected artist on beautiful mosaic tiles that will be installed on the walls of different buildings and

residences in Caribbean Town Aruba, some at an extraordinary size covering an area of up to 35m², enhancing the front facades of all four buildings: Turks & Caicos, Guadeloupe, St. Lucia, and Barbados. Caribbean Town Aruba's vision is to stimulate the creative sector, foster a sense of happiness, and primarily emphasize the importance of exposing our children to art, which opens a new world for them. The result is a community that takes pride in being part of a housing development project that considers every detail, from caring for the flora and fauna on and

around the property to extending its love for Aruba by including local artists.

While we paused the artistic aspect of the project to focus on other construction topics, we were left with a satisfying feeling from the positive reception and comments we received from all artists. The time has come to resume the artistic project, and at the beginning of 2025, we reconnected with Iberia Tiles, the prestigious company from Spain that, through an extensive process, reproduces art on tiles in the form of mosaics made

from a patented nano polymer material that is fire-resistant and highly durable.

Caribbean Town Aruba has reactivated the project and announces a collaboration with our local artist, Yahaira Maduro, who is known for her very colorful, expressive arts that evoke the happiness Caribbean Town Aruba seeks. Yahaira Maduro has dedicated the month of April 2025 entirely to creating 12 canvases, each featuring hearts, in a Pop Art collection under acrylic named 'Curason Contento' [Happy Heart] as well as a spectacular large abstract piece titled 'Bida ta Dushi' [Life is Sweet.]

The artist Ryan Leliendal played an essential role in this project; artist Yahaira M. could count on her artistic colleagues to complete her work, showcasing the collaboration and kindness of our local community. Therefore, in record time, the talented artist Yahaira Maduro delivered her artwork on May 6, 2025, which Caribbean Town Aruba can proudly display to share the vision of enhancing our project areas with art, inspiring harmony, and transmitting happiness. □



Photo by: Juan Luis Pinto

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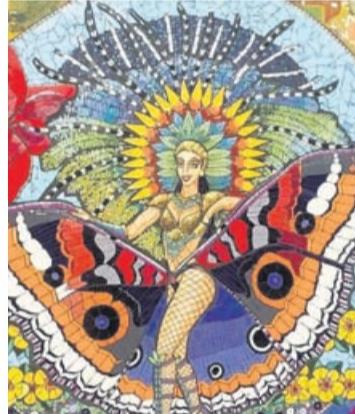
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Juan Valdez Café | Hungry Piranha - Pizza, Wings & More
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Magnet Perfume Jewelry & Cosmetics | The Lazy Lizard
Shalom Hair & Nails Bar | Twist of Flavors | Dunkin Donuts
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Fusion Restaurant, Tapas, Wine & Piano Bar

Exploring the Mainstreet of San Nicolas

SAN NICOLAS— At Just 11 miles southeast from Oranjestad you will enter the city San Nicolas, also known as Sunrise City or Chocolate City. A city that is rich in authentic culture and island charm. San Nicolas is Aruba's second largest city and was once a bustling company town dominated by the oil industry since the early 1930's.

Over the course of four decades, its demographics had changed immensely due to a stream of Afro-Caribbean and South American workers who came to fill the jobs in the oil refinery between the 1920's until the 1960's. To this day traces of the multicultural influences in culinary offerings and customs, housing and population are clearly visible in San Nicolas - more than anywhere else on the island.

Flow of history



If you are looking for history San Nicolas has it. Here you will find three amazing museums, The Museum of Industry, the Community Museum and the Carnival Euphoria, all within walking distance from one another.

The Museum of Industry is situated in the Water Tower in San Nicolas and narrates Aruba's industrial history which began in the 19th century. Here you will learn about gold, aloe, phosphate, oil and the tourism industries which made San Nicolas once a bustling busi-

ness center. Experience the touching stories of those who were part of this history.

Nicolaas Store built in 1940 and renovated in 2014 is the home of the Community Museum. The collection is remarkable and spans millennia. Ancient fossils stand next to tableaus of an authentically recreated colonial kitchen and bedroom and 19th-century barbershop, just to name a few of the items of old-time Aruba that has been preserved. A collection of artifacts and other objects of artistic, cultural, historical, or scientific importance can be found here for the purpose of education or enjoyment.

Carnival Euphoria is showcasing Aruba's Carnival. See how Carnival has developed over the past 65 years.

The new San Nicolas

In the shadow of the refinery, an art capital is quietly beginning to grow. This is the



new San Nicolas, a place that is starting to become a magnet for all that is young, cool and hip in Aruba. Indeed, San Nicolas has all of the ingredients of an emerging cultural hub—varied history, interesting architecture, and, perhaps most importantly, an urban layout that makes it walkable. As you walk around, the streets are silent but the walls are loud, filled with bright, colorful murals painted by a collection of artists from around the world. Thanks to the efforts of various art organizations in Aruba, such as Art Rules Aruba and Aruba Art Fair, San Nicolas has had quite

the aesthetic makeover with regards to vibrant street art. Each year more and more stunning murals are replacing broken down buildings with colorful art pieces that keep brightening up SunriseCity.

Must See, Do, Buy & Eat

A little bit of everything can be found in the main street. Stores selling shoes, clothing, jewelry you name it. Don't miss out on trying the exquisite food offered by the cafes and restaurants or just enjoy a peaceful walk admiring the murals, mosaic benches and all the history San Nicolas has to offer. □

A quick snack for the road: Learn how to make the Aruban Pastechi!

(Oranjestad)—If you ever been to Aruba before, you probably heard of (and even tried) the Aruban Pastechi. Beloved by young and old, this tasty treat is a staple for party snacks, a quick lunch or even breakfast!

Here's how to make the Pastechi dough.

Ingredients:

4 cups of wheat flour
1 tbsp baking powder (if using self-rising flour, omit baking powder)
1 tsp salt
1 tbsp sugar

0.5 cup of melted butter
1 cup water
1 egg

Directions:

Sift your flour into a bowl and add all the dry ingredients before giving it a quick mix. Next add the butter, water and egg and mix until thoroughly combined. At this point, your dough will start to get sticky; time for an arm workout. Knead your dough into the bowl you are using or on a clean surface with some flour lightly dusted until its surface is smooth. You'll know your dough is

ready when it doesn't stick to your hands or the surface on which you're kneading it. Let your dough rest covered for 15-20 minutes.

After resting, divide your dough into approximately 100 gram balls and roll it flat with a rolling pin. The thickness of the pastechi depends on your taste, but the average thinness would be around 1/4 inch or so.

Filling for the pastechis varies according to your taste. The easiest and most common filling you'll find in Aruba is

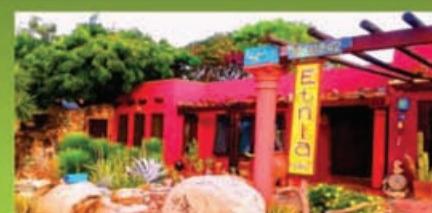
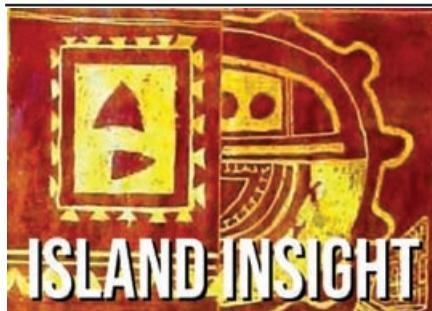
a simple cheese filling. For this, we usually use shredded Gouda, but feel free to use any cheese that melts well when frying the pastry.

Place the filling on your rolled out piece of dough, fold it in half and pinch the sides shut with a fork. If you have a folding tool, feel free to use it for this process. Your pastechi is ready for the fryer!

If you want to store some pastechis for later use, you can freeze them. A good tip is to place a piece of wax paper in between each

pastechi if you are to store them on top of one another. This way the pastechis don't stick to each other when defrosting.

Here in Aruba we enjoy pastechi at any time of the day, but it has become almost tradition to eat pastechis for breakfast on the way to work. Many roadside snack trucks sell pastechi from early morning to noon, and offer a variety of fillings like cheese; ham and cheese; ground beef and pulled chicken to name a few. □



Article by Etnia Nativa

WhatsApp us 592 2702 and book your Aruban experience!

Etnia Nativa is close to high rise Hotels



Manaure, a legacy of leadership and diplomacy

The narrative shared by Etnia Nativa emphasizes the importance of reclaiming and recognizing Aruba's cultural roots and heritage—elements often overshadowed by colonial history. The platform is dedicated to promoting the value of rediscovering native traditions, history, and identity, while encouraging a conscious departure from colonial influence and inherited patterns of submissiveness.

In this context, and in response to exaggerated and often unfounded narratives surrounding our indigenous origins, we clarify that the only historically recognized Pan-Caquetian indigenous ruler connected to Aruba's ancestral heritage is Chief Manaure. By uncovering the true origins of our native roots and honoring Chief Manaure's legacy, we reconnect with the authentic indigenous history of the island.

Manaure was a legendary leader of the Caquetío people, regarded as the great chief of the southwestern Caribbean and the northwestern mainland—what is now Venezuela. He was a respected strategist, warrior, and statesman who lived in a large settlement known as Todariquia, near the Mitare River in northwestern Venezuela. This river flows through the Paraguana xeric scrub ecoregion before dividing into the Pedregal and Paraíso rivers, which empty into the Gulf of Coro.

According to native legends, Manaure was celebrated for his intelligence, bravery, and moral strength. As Cacique, he held not only political and legal power but was also believed to possess spiritual and even magical authority. His leadership was so esteemed that he was carried by his warriors in specially made hammock-litters—a symbol of his elevated status. He was remembered for his commanding presence, impeccable conduct, and sharp intellect, and widely respected as a man of his word.

Manaure made history as one of the few indigenous monarchs in South America to engage diplomatically



with the Spanish during the early 16th century. Around 1523, he established contact with Spanish official Juan Martín de Ampíes, then stationed in Aruba. This connection was facilitated through one of Manaure's vassal chiefs, Macarima, who expressed interest in negotiating peace. As a result, an alliance was formed between Manaure and Ampíes.

However, the relationship was soon tested. In 1525, many Indigenous people—including some of Manaure's close relatives—were kidnapped and sold into slavery by merchants from Santo Domingo. Thanks to the diplomatic ties between Manaure and Ampíes, many of these individuals, including all of Manaure's relatives, were successfully rescued and returned to the island and mainland.

Grateful for the alliance, Manaure formalized the first agreement with the Spanish and was later baptized by Juan Martín de Ampíes, receiving the Christian name "Martín." This was followed by the founding of Santa Ana de Coro in Venezuela on July 26, 1527, in the name of the Spanish Catholic Crown. Soon after, a large wooden cross was brought to Aruba to found the city of Santa Cruz near the center of the island.

The region had been a prosperous and productive trade zone long before the arrival of European colonizers. However, the positive relations with the Spanish were short-lived. In 1528, burdened by heavy debts to German bankers, King Charles V—Holy Roman Emperor and King of Spain—transferred control of the province to the Welser banking family of Augsburg, effectively breaking his agreement with Manaure.

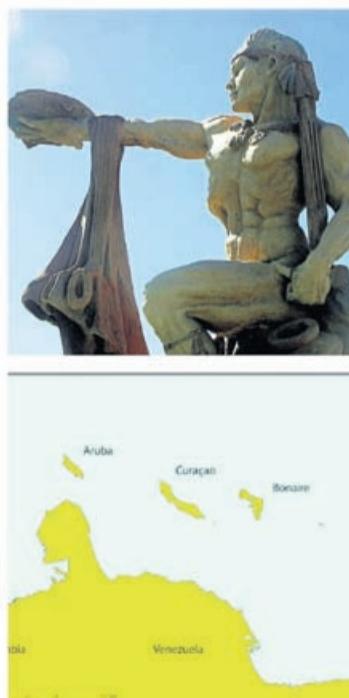
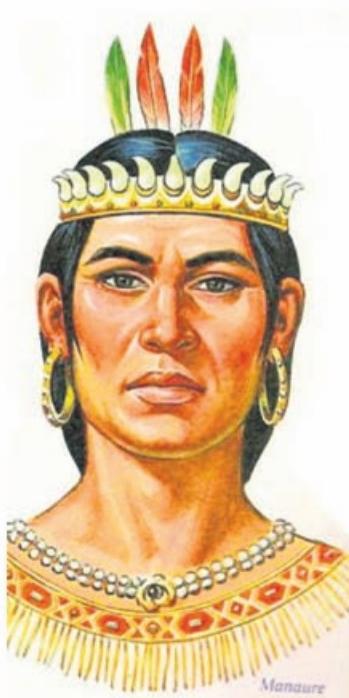
Episode CCCIII-303

The Welsers, with no regard for the existing alliance, appointed Ambrosio Alfinger as the new governor. Alfinger launched a brutal campaign of Indigenous displacement and massacres, which led to the collapse of the region's prosperity.

German forces seized both large and small canoes, along with property belonging to the Jira Jara and Caquetío nations—including Manaure's own resources. When Manaure attempted to reclaim his possessions, he was imprisoned. Ampíes, meanwhile, was stripped of his position and expelled. He would later return to Curaçao and Aruba to support Manaure's cause. After his release, Manaure went into exile with his family, relocating some 250–300 kilometers from Coro. There, he launched a guerrilla resistance campaign against the German occupiers. In response, the Welsers dispatched mercenaries to hunt him down. Manaure was eventually ambushed and killed in 1549 during one of these skirmishes, in the area now known as the city of El Tocuyo.□

If you enjoyed reading our stories and are interested in learning more regarding the true identity of the island, we recommend you to book a visit to Etnia Nativa—the only "living museum of its kind in the Caribbean"—a fascinating choice, a trend-setter since 1994 and co-founder of Islands National Park, Archaeological Museum Aruba and Artisan Foundation among others. Etnia Nativa shares valuable knowledge and connects you to the ancient island's spirit and soul.

WhatsApp 297 592 2702
or etnianativa03@gmail.com



National Park Arikok: Aruba's biggest nature conservation

The National Park Arikok comprises almost 18 % of the island. Its rugged terrain, desert-like hills filled with tall cacti, breathtaking coastline and protected local flora and fauna welcome you to be explored. There are numerous animals to discover, for example the sea turtle who lays his eggs on the park's beaches.

The national park Arikok takes you on a memorable journey of the island's past offering unique geological, cultural and historical sites. These can all be enjoyed and explored either on your own or during guided tours. A wide variety of educational and informative programs and fun activities is available.

Did you know that four of the in total seven species of sea turtle lay their eggs on Aruba's beaches? In the national park, a Least Tern (*Sternula antillarum*) keeps a strict eye on a very special event taking place below on the beach: a majestic Leatherback (*Dermochelys coriacea*) heads back to sea after laying her eggs, while another nest laid 2 months ago by the same female hatches—a very rare occurrence of daytime nesting and hatching. Sea turtles prefer nesting in the cool and dark hours of the night. And hatchlings usually wait for the cue of cooling surface sand before emerging.

Nature Conservation

The protected area of National Park Arikok was officially established in 2000. Arikok National Park is a 34 square kilometers (7907 acres) of natural area, located at the north-eastern part of Aruba which contains examples of most of the

island's flora and fauna against a backdrop of great geological complexity. We are proud to state that approximately 18% of the total land area of Aruba is assigned as a National Park, to protect and preserve the flora, fauna, geology and historical remains present within Arikok National Park.

The Landscape

There is a great geological variety within the park. The main aspects are the rough hills of the volcanic Aruba lava formation, the mysterious rocks of the batholithic quartz-diorite/tonalite, and the limestone rocks from fossilized coral. The two tallest hills on the island are situated within the park. Jamanota hill 188 meters (617 ft) and Arikok hill 176 meters (577 ft), from which the name of the park is derived.

The line of the permanently wind-and-wave beaten North Coast is broken by several bays (boca's). Most of them are small yet impressive inlets at the mouth of dry riverbeds. Some of these bays (boca's) are spectacular sights, adorned with white, sandy beaches and sand dunes, as is the case at Boca Prins and Dos Playa.

Arikok is also home to Conchi, Aruba's most important natural attraction; also known as The Natural Pool. The journey to the Pool is an adventure by itself and only possible by foot, horse, ATV or 4x4 vehicle.

Cultural and Historical components

There are a number of sites within the park that attest to the history of Aruba. The Caquetío Indians left rock paintings in Cunucu Arikok



and Fontein Cave. The bird drawing in the park logo is a copy of one of these historical artistic expressions.

Old plantation (Cunucus) sites tell the story of an active yet challenging agricultural past.

These Cunucus were also residential areas for the few families that worked the land. These families found ways to survive in the difficult conditions, and were able to erect their homes with materials found in the area. Two of these adobe

houses have been restored. Park rangers are learning many of the old building techniques in order to preserve this unique Aruban mud-house. At Cunucu Arikok and near Plantation Prins you can find these adobe houses.

Park Management

The Aruba Conservation Foundation (ACF), formerly known as Aruba National Park Foundation manages and conserves the park. This foundation was established in July 2003. In February 2017, mangrove and wetland RAMSAR site #198 Spanish Lagoon was annexed to Arikok National Park due to its importance as a feeding and breeding area for water birds and as a nursery area for a variety of marine organisms. With this addition, the areas under FPNA management increased by 70 hectares while the amount of species of flora and fauna to be conserved to over 250. On December 21st, 2018 (AB 2018 no. 77) Parke Marino Aruba – currently consisting of four marine protected areas (MPAs) – was officially established and subsequently brought under management of ACF. In 2019 management plans will be established for the new MPAs which include: coral reefs, sea grass beds, mangrove systems, a large diversity of breeding seabirds. Parke Marino Aruba also contains potential shark nursery areas, endangered sea turtle nesting beaches and marine mammal nursery areas.

Visit the National Park Arikok to see the wonder of Aruba's nature. The visitor center in San Fuego and entrance in Vader Piet (San Nicolas) is open daily from 8:00 AM to 15:30 PM. Contact the ACF via e-mail, info@acf.aw or call +297 585 1234 for more information. □



CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS 40 Totaled

1 Lab 41 Fly high
liquids 42 Churlish

6 Ernst's art fellows

10 Twangy

11 Wise ones DOWN

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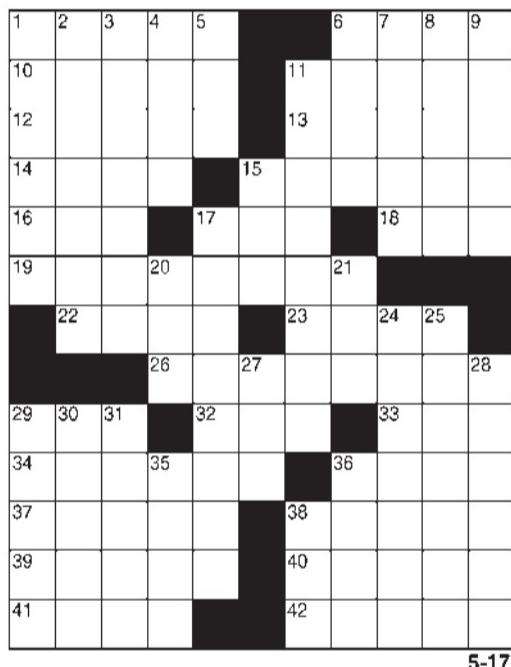
18 Put away 8 Rock 24 Last name catcher

19 Cosmetics 9 Perry's 25 Fraud per- look

counter assistant petrator 36 Extinct

22 At hand 10 Useful 27 Poker bird

23 Melodies skill 38 Collar



5-17

A X Y D L B A A X R
is LONG FELLOW

One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each day the code letters are different.

5-17

CRYPTOQUOTE

X L R I R O E Y G R G X K Z F Y M F Z R

M D H F F Z D F A V G F J R X L K X G

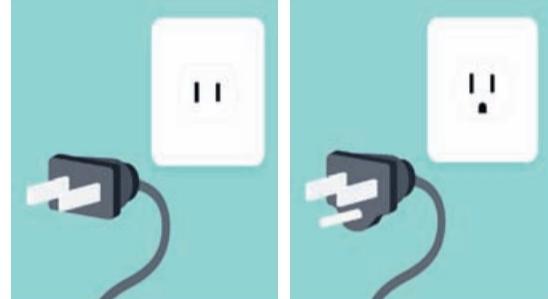
M V L . — C D F Z D O X L R Z R S J V O L
Cryptoquote: WHAT A STRANGE
THING! TO BE ALIVE BENEATH CHERRY
BLOSSOMS.— KOBAYASHI ISSA

Cruise ship Schedule: May 13 - 20 2025

| | | | ARR | DEPT | BERTH |
|-----|----|---|----------------|----------------|------------------|
| TUE | 13 | CELEBRITY REFLECTION CARNIVAL HORIZON | 08.00 09.00 | 23.00 23.00 | B C 1 1 |
| WED | 14 | FREEWINDS | 06.00 | **** | E 1 |
| THU | 15 | CARNIVAL VENEZIA | 09.00 | 22.00 | C 1 |
| SUN | 18 | RHAPSODY OF THE SEAS FREEWINDS - Dept. | 08.00 **** | 23.00 22.30 | C E 1 - |
| TUE | 20 | ADVENTURE OF THE SEAS CARNIVAL VISTA | 07.00 13.00 | 16.00 23.00 | B C 1 1 |

Helpful tips for your stay on Aruba

(Oranjestad)—When traveling to another country, especially for the first time, it is always better to be over-prepared than under-prepared. That is why we have a list of basic but important information that we think may come in handy to Aruba's visitors.



Electrical power

Aruba generally operates on 110V to 127V supply voltage and 60Hz. There are also three types of outlets used on the island: type A with two flat prongs; type B with two flat and one grounding prong, and on occasion, type F with two round prong and two earth clips on the side. However, Type A is most commonly found in homes and establishments.



Drinking water

The water that flows through the sinks of every house, hotels and other establishments is distilled and perfectly safe to drink. Aruba's drinking water exceeds WHO's international standards for water quality, so there is no need to buy bottled water from the store.



Supermarket hours

Supermarket hours may vary depending on where you are staying on the island. Generally though, most supermarkets are open from 8am to 9 or 10pm, Monday through Saturday. On Sundays, supermarkets generally close earlier; mostly around 2pm.



Safety

Since February 2024, Aruba has been categorized as the safest country in the Caribbean by The Telegraph, and many tourist that visit have often told us how they feel safe to explore the island or walk around at night. However, rare incidents do occur, so keep yourself and your belongings safe.

As Biden-era 'junk fee' rule takes effect, Ticketmaster says it will display fees more clearly

By DEE-ANN DURBIN

AP Business Writer

As a Biden administration ban on so-called "junk fees" took effect Monday, Ticketmaster said it would start displaying the full price of a ticket as soon as consumers begin shopping.

Ticketmaster, long a subject of complaints about hidden fees and other issues, was among those targeted by the new rule, which was announced in December by the Federal Trade Commission. The rule requires ticket sellers, hotels, vacation rental platforms and others to disclose processing fees, cleaning fees and other charges up front.

Ticketmaster said it agreed with the FTC's action.

"Ticketmaster has long advocated for all-in pricing to become the nationwide standard so fans can easily compare prices across all ticketing sites," Ticketmaster Chief Operating Officer Michael Wichser said in a statement.

Ticketmaster said it will also tell customers where they are in line when they log in to buy tickets to an event. It will also give real-time updates to customers whose wait times exceed 30 minutes, letting them know ticket price ranges, availability and whether new



An advertisement for Ticketmaster is viewed along an area reserved for special guests on the sideline of the field before an NFL football game, Sunday, Sept. 15, 2024, in Jacksonville, Fla.

Associated Press

event dates have been added.

Ticketmaster, which is owned by Beverly Hills, California-based concert promoter Live Nation, is the world's largest ticket seller, processing 500 million tickets each year in more than 30 countries. Around 70% of tickets for major concert venues in the U.S. are sold through Ticketmaster.

Ticketmaster said Monday's changes would bring North America in line with the rest of the world, where full ticket prices typically are displayed as soon as customers start shopping. SeatGeek, a platform for buying and selling original and resale tickets, said it

also updated its features Monday to make "all-in pricing the default" setting. "Fans deserve pricing that's clear from the start," said SeatGeek CEO Jack Groetzinger said. □



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San Nicolas

Imsan 24 hours
Tel.524 8833

PHARMACY ON DUTY

Oranjestad:
Sta. Anna: Tel.586 8181
San Nicolas:
San Lucas:Tel.584 5119

OTHER

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Blood Bank Aruba 587 0002
Urgent Care 586 0448
Walk-In Doctor's Clinic
+297 588 0539

EMERGENCY

| | |
|----------------|----------|
| Police | 100 |
| Oranjestad | 527 3140 |
| Noord | 527 3200 |
| Sta. Cruz | 527 2900 |
| San Nicolas | 584 5000 |
| Police Tipline | 11141 |
| Ambulancia | 911 |
| Fire Dept. | 115 |
| Red Cross | 582 2219 |

TAXI SERVICES

| | |
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| Taxi Tas | 587 5900 |
| Prof. Taxi | 588 0035 |
| Taxi D.T.S. | 587 2300 |
| Taxi Serv. Aruba | 583 3232 |
| A1 Taxi Serv. | 280 2828 |

TRAVEL INFO

| | |
|-------------------|----------|
| Aruba Airport | 524 2424 |
| American Airlines | 582 2700 |
| Avianca | 588 0059 |
| Jet Blue | 588 2244 |
| Surinam | 582 7896 |

AID FOUNDATIONS

| | |
|----------------------------|--|
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| Tel. 588 0002 | |
| FAVI- Visually Impaired | |
| Tel. 582 5051 | |
| Alcoholics Anonymous | |
| Tel. 736 2952 | |
| Narcotics Anonymous | |
| Tel. 583 8989 | |
| Fundacion Contra Violencia | |
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Caya G.F.

How AI helps push Candy Crush players through its most difficult puzzles

By SARAH PARVINI

AP Technology Writer

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Players swiping their way through more than 18,700 levels of Candy Crush Saga might be surprised to learn they're solving puzzles designed with an assist from artificial intelligence.

The app that helped make gamers out of anyone with a smartphone uses AI to help developers create levels to serve a captive audience constantly looking for more sweets to squash. King, the Swedish video game developer behind Candy Crush, also uses AI to update older levels to help ensure players don't feel bored, stuck or frustrated as they spend time with the game.

Todd Green, general manager of the Candy Crush franchise, said using AI in that way helps free up developers' time to create new puzzle boards. It would be "extremely difficult," he said, for designers to update and reconfigure more than 18,000 levels without AI taking a first pass.

Within the video game industry, discussions around the use of AI in game development run the gamut. Some game makers see AI as a tool that can assist with menial tasks, allowing designers and artists to focus on bigger projects.

AI, they say, can help build richer worlds by creating



This image provided by King.com Limited shows the "Candy Crush Saga" video game.

Associated Press

more interactive non-player characters, for example. But there are also those who strongly oppose the

use of AI, or who see the tech as a threat to their livelihoods be it as video game actors and perform-

ers, or as workers who help make games. Concerns over AI led game performers with the Screen Actors Guild-American Federation of Television and Radio Artists to go on strike in late July.

"We're not putting chatbots into the game. We're not putting AI-powered design experiences into the game for players directly to play with," Green said, adding that the tech is not being used to replace game workers. "Instead, we're trying to deploy AI on existing problems that we have in order to make the work of the teams faster or more accurate, and more accurate more quickly."

In the United States, consumer spending on video game content increased to \$51.3 billion in 2024, up from \$49.8 billion in 2023, with mobile games accounting for about half of all video game content spending, according to data from the Entertainment Software Association trade group. Mobile is now the leading game platform among players aged 8 and older, the ESA says.

Candy Crush first launched on Facebook in 2012 is constantly updating. King recently released its 300th client version of the game. Gaming giant Activision Blizzard acquired King in 2016 for \$5.9 billion.

The free-to-play game is

in a unique position, said Joost Van Dreunen, author of "One Up: Creativity, Competition, and the Global Business of Video Games." Candy Crush is more than a decade old, boasts millions of users and caters to a "ravenous set of players," he said. Demand is so high for new content that it makes sense to use AI to offset the work it takes to create so many levels, Van Dreunen added.

"To supply that at scale, you absolutely can rely on a sort of artificial intelligence or generative AI to create the next set of forms," he said. "The thing about Candy Crush is that every level is technically a single board that you have to solve or clear before you can advance. With AI and the existing library of human-made boards, it makes total sense to then accelerate and expand the efforts to just create more inventory. People play more levels."

King uses AI to target two separate areas: developing new levels and going back to older levels, in some cases, puzzles that are several years old, and reworking them to ensure they're still worth playing. On new levels designed for people who have played the game for a long time, the company wants to ensure the puzzles are fun "on first contact." □

Microsoft to lay off about 3% of its workforce

By MATT O'BRIEN
AP Technology Writer



A Microsoft sign and logo are pictured at the company's headquarters, Friday, April 4, 2025, in Redmond, Wash.

Associated Press

Microsoft began laying off nearly 3% of its entire work-

force Tuesday. The tech giant didn't disclose the total amount of lost jobs but it will amount to about 6,000 people. Microsoft employed 228,000 full-time workers as of last June, the last time it reported its annual headcount. About 55% of those workers were in the U.S. Microsoft, based in Redmond, Washington, said the layoffs will be across all levels and geographies but will focus on reducing the number of managers. Notices to employees began going out

on Tuesday. Microsoft announced a smaller round of performance-based layoffs in January. But the 3% cuts will be Microsoft's biggest since early 2023, when the company cut 10,000 workers, almost 5% of its workforce, joining other tech companies that were scaling back their pandemic-era expansions. The latest layoffs come just weeks after Microsoft reported strong sales and profits that beat Wall Street expectations for the January-March quarter, which

investors took as a dose of relief during a turbulent time for the tech sector and U.S. economy.

Microsoft's chief financial officer, Amy Hood, said on an April earnings call that the company was focused on "building high-performing teams and increasing our agility by reducing layers with fewer managers." She also said the headcount in March was 2% higher than a year earlier, and down slightly compared to the end of last year. □

Injuries are becoming the story of the NBA playoffs. And not even the game's stars are safe

By TIM REYNOLDS
AP Basketball Writer

These are the NBA playoffs of survival, where not even the stars are safe.

The latest huge blow to this postseason: Jayson Tatum was wheeled off Monday night, with every preliminary indication there being that he won't be around to finish this season with the defending champion Boston Celtics.

Golden State's Stephen Curry may run out of time before his injured hamstring allows him to play again. Cleveland's Donovan Mitchell is dealing with an ankle issue. If the Los Angeles Lakers' season had gone any deeper, LeBron James would have been sidelined with a knee sprain. And Milwaukee's Damian Lillard tore his Achilles, putting next season in some doubt and raising questions about Giannis Antetokounmpo's future as well.

The star power is gone in some cases, aching in others, and there's no question that injuries are becoming the story of this postseason. For Lillard and now possibly



Trainers help Boston Celtics' Jayson Tatum (0) off the court after he was injured during the second half of Game 4 in the Eastern Conference semifinals of the NBA basketball playoffs against the New York Knicks Monday, May 12, 2025, in New York.

Associated Press

Tatum, depending on what the MRI and other exams show injuries could be part of the story next season as well.

"Obviously we want to go out there and compete, but when a player of his caliber goes down and he's rolling in pain like that, you know something's wrong," New

York guard Jalen Brunson said after seeing Tatum's injury on Monday night. "So, that's why I just gave my thoughts and prayers because you never want to see something like that, ever."

Injuries are a constant, and the regular season saw some big-name players

forced to shut down much earlier than they wanted. Philadelphia's Joel Embiid wasn't right for basically the entire season because of knee issues, Dallas' Kyrie Irving tore his ACL in March, San Antonio's Victor Wembanyama developed a blood clot that forced his season to end in February,

New Orleans' Dejounte Murray tore his Achilles in January, Orlando's Moritz Wagner tore his ACL in December and two stars with long injury histories the Los Angeles Clippers' Kawhi Leonard and New Orleans' Zion Williamson both were inactive for more than half the season.

Overcoming injuries is just part of NBA life, Bucks coach Doc Rivers said.

"The human spirit is amazing," Rivers said. "It really is."

And in the playoffs, the hits keep coming. Stars are hurting, most of Cleveland's starting lineup has been banged-up in these playoffs, Denver's Michael Porter Jr. is playing through a shoulder issue that typically needs weeks to deal with, and Memphis' Ja Morant had a hip problem that kept him from being on the floor at the end of the Grizzlies' season. Even teams that are winning aren't doing so at anywhere near 100% case in point, Brunson has been dealing with an ankle issue and it somehow isn't slowing him down. □

NFL pauses accelerator program aimed at increasing diverse hirings

By JOSH DUBOW
AP Pro Football Writer

The NFL will not hold its accelerator program aimed at increasing diversity among coaches at the upcoming spring meetings as the league plans to make changes to the program before bringing it back next year.

The latest event in the program, which began in 2022, was scheduled to have coaching candidates of diverse backgrounds meet with team owners at league meetings next week in Minnesota.

NFL chief administrative officer Dasha Smith said the program will come back in May 2026.

"This will allow us to reimagine the program, reflecting on the feedback and en-

gaging with stakeholders so we can ensure a successful program in the future," she said in a statement Tuesday. "We're steadfast in our commitment to strengthen our talent pipeline and create an environment that reflects the diversity of our fan base. The NFL strives to be a unifying force, and we are confident the next evolution of our efforts will take us one step closer to that goal."

CBS Sports first reported the decision.

The NFL recently held an accelerator program for general manager candidates at league meetings in December, a three-day candidate development program at the scouting combine and the ninth-annual women's forum.

Among the people who have gone through the accelerator program and eventually got top jobs are New York Jets head coach Aaron Glenn and former Tennessee general manager Ran Carthon.

Smith said the league intends to combine the coaching and front office accelerator programs and remains committed to increasing diverse hirings for key leadership positions.

"We believe diversity of thought and background is essential to our success, and it's reflected in the policies, programs, and partnerships that help us attract, develop, and retain top talent at every level on and off the field," she said.

The NFL currently has seven minority head coaches

and seven minority general managers. Commissioner Roger Goodell reiterated the league's commitment to diverse hiring at the Super Bowl.

"I believe that our diversity efforts have led to making the NFL better," he said in February in New Orleans.

"It's attracted better talent. We think we're better if we get different perspectives, people with different backgrounds, whether they're women or men or people of color. We make ourselves stronger and we make ourselves better when we have that." □



New York Jets head coach Aaron Glenn looks on during the NFL football team's rookie camp, Friday, May 9, 2025, in Florham Park, N.J.

Associated Press

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MLB reinstates Pete Rose and Shoeless Joe Jackson, making them Hall of Fame eligible

By RONALD BLUM
AP Baseball Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Pete Rose and Shoeless Joe Jackson were reinstated by baseball Commissioner Rob Manfred on Tuesday, making both eligible for the sport's Hall of Fame after their careers were tarnished by sports gambling scandals.

Rose's permanent ban was lifted eight months after his death and came a day before the Cincinnati Reds will honor baseball's career hits leader with Pete Rose Night.

Manfred announced Tuesday that he was changing the league's policy on permanent ineligibility, saying bans would expire at death. Several others will also have their status changed by the ruling, including all members of the 1919 Chicago Black Sox, former Philadelphia Phillies president Williams D. Cox and former New York Giants outfielder Benny Kauff. Under the Hall of Fame's current rules, the earliest Rose or Jackson could be inducted would be in 2028. Rose agreed to a permanent ban on Aug. 23, 1989, following an investigation commissioned by Major League Baseball concluded Rose repeatedly bet on the Reds as a player and manager of the team from 1985-87, a violation of a long-standing MLB rule.

Rose first applied for reinstatement in September 1997, but Commissioner Bud Selig never ruled on the request. Manfred in 2015 rejected a petition for reinstatement, saying "Rose has not presented credible evidence of a re-configured life."

Rose died Sept. 30 at age 83, and a new petition was



Former Cincinnati Reds player and guest Pete Rose acknowledges spectators during a Cincinnati Reds Hall of Fame induction ceremony before a baseball game against the Pittsburgh Pirates, Saturday, July 21, 2018, in Cincinnati.

Associated Press

filed Jan. 8 by Jeffrey Lenkov, a lawyer who represented Rose. Lenkov and Rose's daughter Fawn had met with Manfred on Dec. 17.

In a letter to Lenkov, Manfred wrote, "In my view, a determination must be made regarding how the phrase 'permanently ineligible' should be interpreted in light of the purposes and policies behind Rule 21, which are to: (1) protect the game from individuals who pose a risk to the integrity of the sport by prohibiting the participation of such individuals; and (2) create a deterrent effect that reduces the likelihood of future violations by others.

"In my view, once an individual has passed away, the purposes of Rule 21 have been served.

Obviously, a person no longer with us cannot represent a threat to the integrity of the game. More-

over, it is hard to conceive of a penalty that has more deterrent effect than one that lasts a lifetime with no reprieve. Therefore, I have concluded that permanent ineligibility ends upon the passing of the disciplined individual, and Mr. Rose will be removed from the permanently ineligible list."

A 17-time All-Star during a playing career from 1963-86, Rose holds record for hits (4,256), games (3,562), at-bats (14,053), plate appearances (15,890) and singles (3,215). He was the 1963 NL Rookie of the Year, 1973 MVP and 1975 World Series MVP. A three-time NL batting champion, he broke the prior hits record of 4,191 set by Ty Cobb from 1905-28.

Jackson was a .356 career hitter who was among the eight Black Sox banned for throwing the 1919 World Series.

He died in 1951, but he re-

mains one of the sport's most recognizable names in part for his depiction by Ray Liotta in the movie Field of Dreams.

What else needs to happen for Rose or Jackson to reach the Hall of Fame?

Under a rule adopted by the Hall's board of directors in 1991, anyone on the permanently ineligible list can't be considered for election to the Hall. Jackson was twice considered on ballots by the Baseball Writers' Association of America, but received just 0.9% in 1936 and 1% of a nominating vote in 1940.

Rose's reinstatement occurred too late for him to be considered for the BBWAA ballot. If not on the permanently banned list, Rose would have been eligible on the ballots each from 1992 through 2006. He was written in on 41 votes in 1992 and on 243 of 7,232 ballots (3.4%) over the 15 years, votes that were not

counted. Hall of Fame Chairman of the Board Jane Forbes Clark said in a statement that players affected by Manfred's ruling Tuesday would be considered.

"The National Baseball Hall of Fame has always maintained that anyone removed from Baseball's permanently ineligible list will become eligible for Hall of Fame consideration," she said. "Major League Baseball's decision to remove deceased individuals from the permanently ineligible list will allow for the Hall of Fame candidacy of such individuals to now be considered."

Without the ban, both players are eligible for the Hall's Classic Baseball Era, which next meets to consider players in December 2027 and considers those whose greatest contributions to the sport were before 1980. A 10-person historical overview committee selects the eight ballot candidates with the approval of the Hall's board and the ballot is considered by 16 members at the winter meetings, with a 75% or higher vote needed. The committee members include Hall of Fame members, team executives and media/historians.

Among the players in the 2028 class eligible for the BBWAA ballot are Albert Pujols and Yadier Molina.

Did Trump help get Rose reinstated?

Rose's supporters have included U.S. President Donald Trump, who has said he intends to pardon Rose posthumously. Manfred discussed Rose with Trump when the pair met in April, but he hasn't disclosed specifics of their conversation. □